

**TV
GUIDE**

COMIC-CON PREVIEW
Scoop on *The Flash*, *Heroes
Reborn* and more

SHARKNADO 3

JULY 13-26, 2015
DOUBLE ISSUE

**SUMMER'S WILDEST
RIDE CONTINUES!**

**+
GILLIAN ANDERSON
JOSH HOLLOWAY
ZACHARY LEVI**

JULY 13–26, 2015

14

Tara Reid and Ian Ziering
goof off during our cover
shoot for *Sharknado 3*:
Oh Hell No!, premiering
July 22 on Syfy



PHOTOGRAPH BY BO DEREK

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 Input**
- 4 The Big Picture** Lake Bell's *Wet Hot American Summer*; Josh Holloway in *Colony*; and Cheryl Ladd stops by *Ray Donovan*.
- 8 Upfront** Transgender TV; *True Detective* scoop; seven things Matt Roush hopes go right with Emmy nominations; and more.
- 12 Roush Review**
- 80 Daytime Highlights**
- 81 Beauty Call**
- 82 Crossword**
- 83 Horoscope**
- 84 Cheers & Jeers**

FEATURES

- 14 Cover Story: *Sharknado 3*** The shark-infested franchise is back—with even more bite. Plus, Bo Derek shoots our cover!
- 20 Comic-Con Preview** *Heroes Reborn*, *The Flash*, *Arrow* and what else to expect at this year's ultimate fan fest.
- 26 *Geeks Who Drink*** We pull up a seat at the bar with Zachary Levi for his boozy new quiz show.
- 28 *Mr. Robot*** Exclusive intel from the hit thriller's set.
- 30 Gillian Anderson** *Hannibal* dish and *X-Files* secrets revealed!

THE GUIDE

- 32 Matt Roush's Top 10**
- 35 Week 1** *Chasing Life* returns; Joel McHale hosts the ESPYS; *Lachey's Bar* opens its doors; Denis Leary takes the mic for FX's *Sex&Drugs&Rock&Roll*; *Tut* begins its mini-reign; and more.
- 58 Week 2** *Bear Grylls*'s tips on how to survive in the wild; Ryan Seacrest opens up about his latest show, *Knock Knock Live*; *Last Comic Standing*'s Roseanne Barr; *Wayward Pines* wraps up; inside Syfy's *Lavalantula*.
- 86 Pacific Grids**

ON THE COVER Tara Reid and Ian Ziering photographed by Bo Derek in Los Angeles on May 31, 2015. Photo illustration by Robert Rodriguez. Hair: Gui Schoedler/Oribe Hair Care/Exclusive Artists. Makeup: Blondie/MAC Cosmetics/Exclusive Artists. Grooming: Helen Robertson/Surface Hair/Celestine Agency. Styling: Rhonda Spies. Set design: Chris Gaskill/Art Works Hollywood. Reid's top: Maison Jules; leggings: Helmut Lang; boots: Vince Camuto. Ziering's shirt and jeans: Joe's Jeans; boots: Bar III. This page: Reid's dress: Alexander Wang; shoes: Mambri. Ziering's shirt: John Varvatos; jeans: Joe's Jeans; shoes: Bar III



SHARK AND

Tara Reid and Ian Ziering return for another fin-tastic adventure in *Sharknado 3* BY DAMIAN HOLBROOK

Tara Reid and Ian Ziering
photographed exclusively
for TV GUIDE MAGAZINE
on May 31 in Los Angeles

PHOTOGRAPH BY
BO DEREK



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TOMP ASIDE, INDOMINUS Rex. *Jurassic World*'s designer dino has nothing on the true king of hybrid menaces: the improbable and seemingly unstoppable mash-up of disaster movies and apex predators known as *Sharknado*. And with *Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!*, the third blast of shark-infested high winds and higher camp, they've gone and gotten a much bigger boat.

"It's so strange: We're a little TV movie, and everyone is treating it like a huge summer blockbuster," marvels Anthony C. Ferrante, the trilogy's director, still stunned at the franchise's ferocious success. He's not alone. Almost everyone involved in 2013's original *Sharknado* was awash in disbelief when the masses devoured the cheapo flick, which saw Los Angeles being assaulted by a cheesy, shark-tossing tornado. "I never thought the movie would even see the light of day," confesses Ian Ziering, whose heroic ex-surfer and pun-fully named Fin Shepard has since become the series' Bruce Willis of murderous makos. "I assumed it would come and go."

"When I read the script, I was laughing so hard," echoes Tara Reid, who stars as Fin's wife, April Wexler. "It was like, 'You gotta be kidding me.' It was the silliest movie I have ever read." And that was before the LOL-worthy title even happened. "Originally, Ian and I signed on when it was called *Dark Skies*," Reid reveals. "Then in the first week of filming they changed the name to *Sharknado*, and we were both like, 'Nooo! You can't call it that!' But they said to trust them, and it turns out Syfy, Anthony and the producers knew what they were doing."

Initially, the ratings for the first airing of *Sharknado* "were good but not great," recalls Syfy's Chris Regina, the senior vice president of program strategy who oversees the network's original movies. But a groundswell of online attention proved there was definitely blood in the water. The key was simply baiting more viewers. "So we added additional airings because of the buzz we were getting, and it exploded."

Riding the tide of those encore presentations and the WTF fascination of social media (even Mia Farrow live-tweeted), Ferrante's "little TV movie" suddenly became the biggest splash of that summer, leading to theatrical showings, late-night talk-show jokes, and the kind of media hype usually reserved for feature-film epics. "The first movie had very little marketing. They treated it like the regular Syfy TV movie, and there is nothing wrong with that," Ferrante says. "Then it began gaining traction, and it blew up on the re-airings, it blew up Twitter. The thing that's wonderful about the first *Sharknado* is

that people found us; we didn't force people to watch it. That is what makes it special."

It's also what made 2014's sequel a no-brainer. "We had all the ingredients that we knew had made the movie a success," offers Regina, adding that recapturing TV's weirdest lightning in a bottle meant mixing more juice into the recipe. *Sharknado 2: The Second One* boasted a bigger budget, better effects and a move to the Big Apple, where the newly reunited Fin and April battled both another storm and monster expectations. Wisely, Syfy went hard with the marketing, complete with a branded presence at Comic-Con in San Diego, which helped



turn last summer's brilliantly absurd follow-up into the network's most-watched original movie ever, with 3.9 million viewers. And again, jaws hit the ground as fast as the film's exploding shark parts. "I thought we'd maybe get close to the numbers we did on the first one," admits Ferrante. "I didn't expect this to blow up a second time. Now, to be sitting here two and a half years after we shot the first movie with a TV GUIDE MAGAZINE cover and a third movie where we have spanned multiple states? It's pretty incredible."

For *Oh Hell No!*, the whole gang—Ferrante, Ziering, Reid and the trilogy's screenwriter, Thunder Levin—reconvened on the East Coast for a shoot that lasted less than three weeks, and this time, the forecast called for more madness than ever. "When we were developing this one, people were saying that they weren't sure how we could top the second one. It was so jam-packed with stuff," Ferrante says. "And I would say I don't know how we can top *this one*. There

"People [were] calling us to be in the film, which is really exciting," says Syfy senior vice president Regina. Clockwise from top left: Springer; Muniz; Ziering; Newman and Jack Griffo; Reid and Derek Hasselhoff; Teller, Wilkinson and Penn Jillette

PREVIOUS SPREAD: REID'S TOP: ALEXANDER WANG; LEGGINGS: HELMUT LANG; GLOVES: GASPARD; GLOVES: SYLVIE CAMUTO; ZIERING'S SHIRT: RALPH LAUREN; JEANS: JOE'S JEANS; SHOES: BAR III



**"THERE ARE LITERALLY IDEAS
FOR FOUR *SHARKNADO*
MOVIES CRAMMED INTO ONE
FILM...AND IT WORKS!"**
—DIRECTOR ANTHONY FERRANTE



THIS SPREAD, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: RAYMOND LIU/SFYF (2);
KRIS CONNOR/NBC; RAYMOND LIU/SFYF; GENE PAGE/SFYF; RAYMOND LIU/SFYF (2)



are literally ideas for four *Sharknado* movies crammed into one film...and it works!”

Opening in Washington, D.C., with Fin preparing to receive the Medal of Freedom from the president (played by Mark Cuban, of *Shark Tank*, natch) for saving L.A. and New York, No. 3 benefited from being part of a national treasure in its own right. With the *Sharknado* brand so amusingly beloved, production was able to secure clearance to shoot all around the capital, lending a level of authenticity to the most unrealistic film since, well, No. 2. “We had access to some incredible places,” raves Ziering of filming at the Washington Monument and outside 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. “When you’re part of a megahit, apparently people are happy to open their doors and work with you.”

Before you can say “Beltway,” however, Fin’s celebration with the commander in chief turns cataclysmic after a massive new sharknado develops over the city, triggering a sequence Ferrante calls “*White House Down* with sharks—the metaphor there is that they’re terrorists,” he explains, giddily recounting how this bit allowed for a dose of amped-up, military-style action. “This story

gave us a chance to have a gun-toting president, and Ian has a machine gun. It gave us the opportunity to do something we haven’t done before in these movies.”

Another first for the franchise is filming in multiple locales. With the entire Eastern seaboard under attack by sharknado cells (damn you, global warming!), *Oh Hell No!* goes on a road trip as Fin races to Florida, where the now-pregnant April; their daughter, Claudia (Ryan Newman); and April’s mom, May (Bo Derek; see page 19), are celebrating Claudia’s 18th birthday. As with Washington, Ferrante and company were granted carte blanche to shoot extensively at Universal Studios, Orlando. Yes, there are sharks in the park.

“Sharknados tend to follow us everywhere, if you haven’t noticed,” laughs Reid, whose character now sports what Ziering jokingly calls a “go-go gadget” prosthetic, having lost her hand to a midair shark attack in *The Second One*. “So it makes perfect sense that another one would start where my husband is, then come to me!”

Just as in the previous outings, this wild ride is filled with blood and guts and goofy deaths. “We do a little more evisceration in this one,” previews Ferrante.



"Universal Orlando was so generous," Ferrante says. "They said, 'As long as it's sharks and a tornado doing the damage, you can do whatever you want in the park.'" Wrestler Jericho (left) joined the fun at the park

"There is a great, amazing kill that is prolonged and agonizing for the character. But it's really cool. We do some horrible things to the victims."

There's also a flood of celebrity cameos, including retired L.A. Laker Rick Fox, *Playboy* models Holly Madison and Kendra Wilkinson, magicians Penn and Teller, NYSNC-er Chris Kirkpatrick, WWE star Chris Jericho and talk-show host Jerry Springer. Along the way, *Malcolm in the Middle*'s Frankie Muniz turns up as a storm chaser working with the original film's Nova Clarke (Cassie Scerbo, reprising her role), and, in keeping with the franchise's family-first theme, slow-motion beach icon David Hasselhoff surfaces as Fin's father, Gil, a former astronaut whose NASA connections could help save the world. How, exactly, we can't even begin to explain.

"[The whole thing] is tongue-in-cheek!" Ziering says, as if anyone needs reminding that the fate of mankind is in the hands of a Baywatcher and a teen idol turned Chippendale. "It is preposterous. There are sharks in tornadoes! It's so far-fetched, you can only suspend disbelief to enjoy it."

And that is exactly why we love this series so much and why everyone from Syfy to Ferrante to the stars are banking on endless summers of sharknadoes. "So much of the film is a social experience with the fans, and that really helps educate us," Regina says of gauging the potential for a fourth movie. "I have an idea of where we can go in the next movie, but they could be demanding something else after this that could change my mind."

One mind that won't be swayed is Ziering's. He's hooked, wherever the next one may be headed. "I would love to be a part of this project for many years to come," the actor says. "It's entertainment, and I'm having fun at the same time. So why get off a boat that isn't sinking?"

Hmmm...*Sharknado* at sea? Oh, hell yes!

SHARKNADO 3: OH HELL NO!, Wednesday, July 22, 9/8c, Syfy

PICTURE PERFECT

DON'T CALL BO DEREK a 10. She's way more than that these days!

"I've finally grown out of that, I think," laughs the knockout, who plays Tara Reid's protective mother in *Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!* With those '80s cornrows and bikini scenes behind her, the 58-year-old is now just as happy holding a camera as she is in front of one, which made her the perfect choice to shoot our cover. "It was so much fun," says Derek. "I loved working with TV GUIDE MAGAZINE. We were all speaking the same language." That included her subjects, stars Reid and Ian Ziering. "When you trust somebody, you're more free," says Ziering with a smile. "We got a little crazy."

When not snapping pics, Derek is saving animals around the world. In fact, she was swimming with sharks in the Galápagos Islands when Syfy's offer came in. "The timing was perfect," she says, proud to be connected with anything that starts a dialogue about animal conservancy. "Specifically, sharks and shark finning, which is a huge problem," she adds. "The more we know about these important creatures, the better chance they have of surviving. If it's *Sharknado*, I won't complain!" —DH

